

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

I believe that this kind of media consolidation is the main cause of declining journalism standards in America, and true free press is a cornerstone of democracy. Without real media freedom, our country cannot fulfill its promise to the people. We must be tough in our enforcement of media ownership rules. Thank you.